

House Bill 709

By: Representative Harbin of the 118th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 29A of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to availability and assignment system relating to individual health insurance
3 coverage, so as to provide for certain notices to persons who become eligible for COBRA
4 coverage or who are receiving COBRA coverage; to provide a definition; to provide for
5 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 29A of Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 availability and assignment system relating to individual health insurance coverage, is
10 amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

11 "33-29A-9.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'COBRA' means the federal Consolidated
13 Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986.

14 (b) All insurers or other persons licensed by the Commissioner who serve as
15 administrators in Georgia under employer sponsored, self-funded health benefit
16 arrangements or plans or self-funded Taft Hartley plans shall provide notices for all citizens
17 of this state regarding potential eligibility for coverage under the Georgia Health Insurance
18 Assignment System pursuant to Code Section 33-29A-4 and the Georgia Health Benefits
19 Assignment System pursuant to Code Section 33-29A-5. Such notices shall be issued by
20 all such insurers, administrators, and other persons to potentially eligible individuals upon
21 such individuals' becoming eligible for COBRA coverage and at the beginning of such
22 individuals' fourteenth month of their 18 months of active COBRA coverage. The notice
23 shall be in a form as promulgated under the rules and regulations of the Commissioner and
24 shall be mailed by first class mail to such individuals by such insurers, administrators, and
25 other persons."

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SECTION 2.

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All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.